similar period last year. Coal despatches to the power sector have been maintained to the desired extent. It was only because of high priority being accorded to the power sector there has been some shortfalls in despatches of coal to the other sectors.

Coal companies are striving to maximise coal production and despatches for meeting the entire demand of coal as per projections made by the Planning Commission, within the constraints of production and its transportation. Coal can also be freely imported and the consumers can supplement their supplies through imports. The option of captive mining is also now available for power and steel sectors. Coal from a number of collieries has been offered under LSS to supplement its supply.

Employment Opportunities for the Youth in Tribal Areas of Gujarat

1018. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any special plan to create employment opportunities for the youth in the tribal areas of Surat, Bharuch, Valsad, Panchmahal and Dang districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) There is no specific Centrally Sponsored Scheme under consideration to create employment opportunities for the youth in the tribal areas of Surat, Bharuch, Valsad, Panchmahal and Dang districts of Gujarat, However, preference is given to Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of society in employment oriented programmes, such as, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP).

Modernisation of Coal Industry

1019. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the various modernisation measures taken in coal industry during the last two decades;

(b) the details of the public money invested therein;

(c) to what Extent the objectives set out have been achieved;

(d) whether qualitative increase in coal production has been achieved;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The objective of the various modernisation measures taken in the coal industry have been one or a combination of the following—

(i) Increased production and productivity;

(ii) Improve safety; and

(iii) Conservation of coal resources.

(b) The capital investment in Coal India Limited (CIL) since 1975-76 upto 1994-95 has been Rs. 18027.61 crores. In Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), the capital investment since 1974-75 till 1994-95 has been Rs. 2932. 43 crores.

(c) Some of the relevant achievements of CIL and SCCL are given below:

CIL

The annual coal production has increased from 78.99 million tonnes in 1974-75 to 223.07 million tonnes in 1994-95.